

1. (Amended) A valve actuation linkage mechanism for use in an internal combustion engine comprising:

a rocker arm having a pivot rod cup;  
a valve bridge having a pivot rod chamber; and  
a pivot rod comprising a pivot rod head, wherein at least a part of the pivot rod head pivots within the pivot rod cup, and comprising a pivot rod body, wherein at least a part of the pivot rod body pivots in the pivot rod chamber.

8. (Amended) A valve actuation linkage mechanism for use in an internal combustion engine comprising:

a rocker arm having a pivot rod cup;  
a pivot rod;  
a pivot rod retainer;  
a valve bridge having a pivot rod chamber;  
a middle valve bridge section having the pivot rod chamber and at least one adjacent pivot rod retainer securing bore; and  
a bottom valve bridge section.

14. (Amended) A valve actuation linkage mechanism for use in an internal combustion engine comprising:

a pivot rod retainer;  
a valve bridge having a pivot rod chamber; and  
a pivot rod comprising a pivot rod head, wherein at least a part of the pivot rod head is pivotable within a pivot rod cup of a rocker arm, and comprising a pivot rod body, wherein at least a part of the pivot rod body pivots in the pivot rod chamber.